



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Grisanti and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Steve McClary, City Manager

Date prepared: June 15, 2022

Meeting date: June 27, 2022

Subject: School Safety (Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer)

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** At the request of Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer, direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a pilot program to provide school security services at Malibu's four public schools (Malibu High School, Malibu Middle School, Malibu Elementary School, and Webster Elementary School).

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no cost associated with the Recommended Action. Should Council later approve a contract to be issued for the services, an allocation from the General Fund Reserves will be necessary. Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer are recommending that the pilot program be limited to a cost not to exceed \$250,000.

**WORK PLAN:** This item was not included in the Proposed Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**DISCUSSION:** In the wake of the most recent mass/school shootings, Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer met with representatives of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) on May 27, 2022, to discuss augmenting security at local public schools.

SMMUSD representatives informed the group there were no plans for SMMUSD funding for any additional security at either Santa Monica or Malibu schools. In Santa Monica, school security is provided by the Santa Monica Police Department, which is funded by the City of Santa Monica.

Captain Seetoo informed the group of the shortage of deputies at the Lost Hills station, as well as costs and limitations involved even if deputies were available. She suggested the

option of hiring a private security firm be considered, and she provided information about security vendors currently working successfully with LASD at other school campuses.

On June 14, 2022, the same group convened along with approximately 20 others, including school administrators, teachers, and parent and community leaders, to hear options proposed by Captain Seetoo. At her invitation, a private security provider was present to discuss the role and responsibilities of a private security firm qualified to offer security services at a school. He described how school security differed from security services provided at other businesses and facilities.

Questions from the group regarding the capabilities and limits of a private security provider, as well as the role of the City and SMMUSD were discussed, and the group indicated consensus regarding further exploration of this option. Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer informed the group that they planned to bring this before the Council to consider directing staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a pilot program for private security. Captain Seetoo confirmed that LASD, including members of its Juvenile Intervention Team (J-Team), would work closely and in conjunction with any private security firms contracted for local public schools in Malibu.

In addition, Captain Seetoo strongly urged the schools and Boys and Girls Club of Malibu (BGCM) to implement the Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) programs at all schools. SHP provides training for teachers, school staff, students, and their families on how to identify at-risk behaviors and intervene to get help. Programs include relationship skills, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and self-awareness. All training and resource materials are provided at no cost and are accessible on-demand via Sandy Hook Promise's Learning Center. Additional information is available on the SHP website at [www.SandyHookPromise.org](http://www.SandyHookPromise.org).

In order to determine the full cost of contracting with a private firm to provide security services at Malibu's four public schools (Malibu High School, Malibu Middle School, Malibu Elementary School, and Webster Elementary School), Mayor Grisanti and Councilmember Farrer are requesting that Council direct City staff to issue an RFP for services from a firm qualified to provide school security. They suggest that this be a pilot program for one school year or to not extend beyond the end of the school year in progress when the contract is finalized. They also recommend that the pilot program be limited to a cost not to exceed \$250,000.

ATTACHMENTS: None.